

# Notice of Allowability

**Application No.**

10/802,646

**Examiner**

ALICIA LEWIS

**Applicant(s)**

SEYMOUR ET AL.

**Art Unit**

2164

**- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Board Decision on 3/2/12.
2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on \_\_\_\_; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6,8-11,14,15,17-20 and 23-26.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 5/9/2012.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

/Alicia M Lewis/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2164

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Hoffman on May 9, 2012.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **Claim 1: Please replace claim 1 with the following claim language:**

1. An apparatus for empirically adjusting a user's authorized access to a database, the apparatus comprising:

a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium storing executable computer program modules comprising:

a database discovery module configured to determine a structure of the database and the user's authorized access to the database, the user's authorized access including a set of authorized database tables and authorized columns;

a command monitoring module configured to monitor the user's actual accesses to the database until a preselected quantity of actual accesses have been observed, the user's actual accesses including a set of accessed database tables and accessed columns; and

an analysis module configured to compare the user's actual accesses with the user's authorized access and configured to adjust the user's authorized access taking into account results of the comparing by changing settings within a database access control module to deny the user future database access to an authorized database table or an authorized column that is not in the set of accessed database tables and accessed columns; and  
a processor for executing the computer program modules.

**Claim 2: Please replace claim 2 with the following claim language:**

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a storage area configured to accumulate data generated by the command monitoring module.

**Claim 3: Please replace claim 3 with the following claim language:**

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the command monitoring module is a sniffer.

**Claim 4: Please replace claim 4 with the following claim language:**

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the database is a relational database accessed by a structured query language.

**Claim 5: Please replace claim 5 (which has been renumbered claim 6) with the following claim language:**

Art Unit: 2164

5. A computer-implemented method for empirically adjusting a user's authorized access to a database, the method comprising the steps of:

discovering the user's authorized access to the database, the user's authorized access including a set of authorized database tables and authorized columns;

observing the user's actual accesses to the database until a preselected quantity of actual accesses have been observed, the user's actual accesses including a set of accessed database tables and accessed columns;

comparing the user's actual accesses with the user's authorized access; and

adjusting the user's authorized database access taking into account results of the comparing step by changing settings within a database access control module of a computer-implemented database server to deny the user future database access to an authorized database table or an authorized column that is not in the set of accessed database tables and accessed columns.

**Claim 14: Please replace claim 14 (which has been renumbered claim 15) with the following claim language:**

14. A non-transitory computer-readable medium containing executable computer program instructions configured to empirically adjust a user's authorized access to a database, the computer program instructions performing the steps of:

Art Unit: 2164

discovering the user's authorized access to the database, the user's authorized access including a set of authorized database tables and authorized columns;

observing the user's actual accesses to the database until a preselected quantity of actual accesses have been observed, the user's actual accesses including a set of accessed database tables and accessed columns;

comparing the user's actual accesses with the user's authorized access; and

adjusting the user's authorized database access taking into account results of the comparing step by changing settings within a database access control module of a computer-implemented database server to deny the user future database access to an authorized database table or an authorized column that is not in the set of accessed database tables and accessed columns.

**Claim 23: Please replace claim 23 (which has been renumbered claim 5) with the following claim language:**

23. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the preselected quantity of actual accesses is sufficiently large that all expected functionalities of applications accessing the database are exercised.

#### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Art Unit: 2164

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In view of the decision on appeal by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, the prior art fails to teach the combination of claimed elements.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALICIA LEWIS whose telephone number is (571)272-5599. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 10 - 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christyann Pulliam can be reached on 571-270-1007. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2164

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alicia M Lewis/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2164  
May 10, 2012